



Welcome to Oaks Class

Mrs. Davies

Year 5 and 6, also known as Mighty Oaks



Mighty Oaks Classroom

Following the building work over the summer, we now have 2 dedicated learning spaces for KS2 in the morning. Years 3 and 4 are housed on our new mezzanine, years 5 and 6 are now settled in the original KS2 classroom. This is arranged with all desks facing forwards to enable all pupils to clearly see the board and the teacher.



Timetable

This is the timetable for a typical week in terms 1 and 2 (when swimming is on Tuesday afternoons).

Timetable term 1 and 2

	8.30 - 08:45	08:45-09:00	09:00-10:00	10:15-11:35	11:35-12	13:00-15:00
MON	Pupils settle to their chosen tasks	EMA	English (<u>new</u> spellings /grammar)	Maths Reading	worship	History or Geography and Computing <u>Miss Bevens</u>
TUES	Pupils settle to their chosen tasks	EMA	Maths	English /Reading	worship	Religious Education Swimming <u>Mrs.Davies</u>
WED	Pupils settle to their chosen tasks	EMA	English	Maths / Reading	worship	Science RSHE <u>Mrs.Davies</u>
THURS	Pupils settle to their chosen tasks	EMA	English	Maths / Reading	worship	P.E. (<u>up and under</u>) Music and French <u>Mrs.Davies</u>
FRI	Pupils settle to their chosen tasks	EMA	Maths or English	P.E (<u>up and under</u>)	worship	Art and <u>Philosophy</u> <u>Miss Bevens</u>

EMA – Early morning activities: handwriting and spelling practice and quick maths recall.

Organisation

We will be using 'learning partners' in the classroom to help children explore and express their ideas. In order to provide a variety of experiences, children will be allocated (randomly) a new learning partner each week.

I am also promoting a 'no hands up' approach. Instead, when a question is asked, pupils will have the chance to talk to their learning partner before a random member of the class is chosen to offer an answer. Hands up will still be used for asking questions.

Independence

Independence is encouraged throughout the school, but it is a key feature of our dealings with the older children.

With this in mind, I will remind them that while teaching is my responsibility, learning is theirs. It has been proven scientifically that those people with a 'growth mindset' are more successful learners, so the language used in the classroom will reflect this, recognising that effort, struggle and making 'useful errors' are a valuable part of learning. Pupils will be asked to focus on their own achievement and improvement and not compare themselves to others.

I will be asking them to reflect on their learning and how well they believe they have grasped the lesson objective. We have a quick and simple system in their books where they draw a mountain shape and put a flag on this to show how confident they are at the end of the lesson.

They will be expected to read and respond appropriately to any marking comments.

Homework

Government advice for pupils in Key Stage 2 is that they spend 30 mins per day on independent learning tasks. Daily reading and maths fluency tasks are expected to take up the bulk of this time.

Homework will be given out on Fridays and books should be handed in by the following Thursday morning. Homework (which will include online activities) will involve reading, maths practice and spelling practice every week. Other tasks may vary but will be made clear on the weekly homework sheet.

- Homework tasks will be based on our learning during the week, so pupils should be able to complete these independently. Please ask your child to speak to me as soon as possible if they have any difficulties.
- If pupils are struggling to complete online tasks at home, please let me know and I will arrange for them to have access to technology before lessons begin in the morning (between 8:30 and 8:45).
- I aim to provide opportunities for independent learning without this becoming onerous. If you would like additional homework for your child, please ask them to speak to me and I will be happy to provide this.

Access to online support and learning - Padlet

We still have use of Padlet to access learning resources and share ideas. Links to our online learning resources, such as Spelling Shed, Mathletics and Times Tables Rockstars can be found on this site.

The main page (which has links to all the others listed below) is

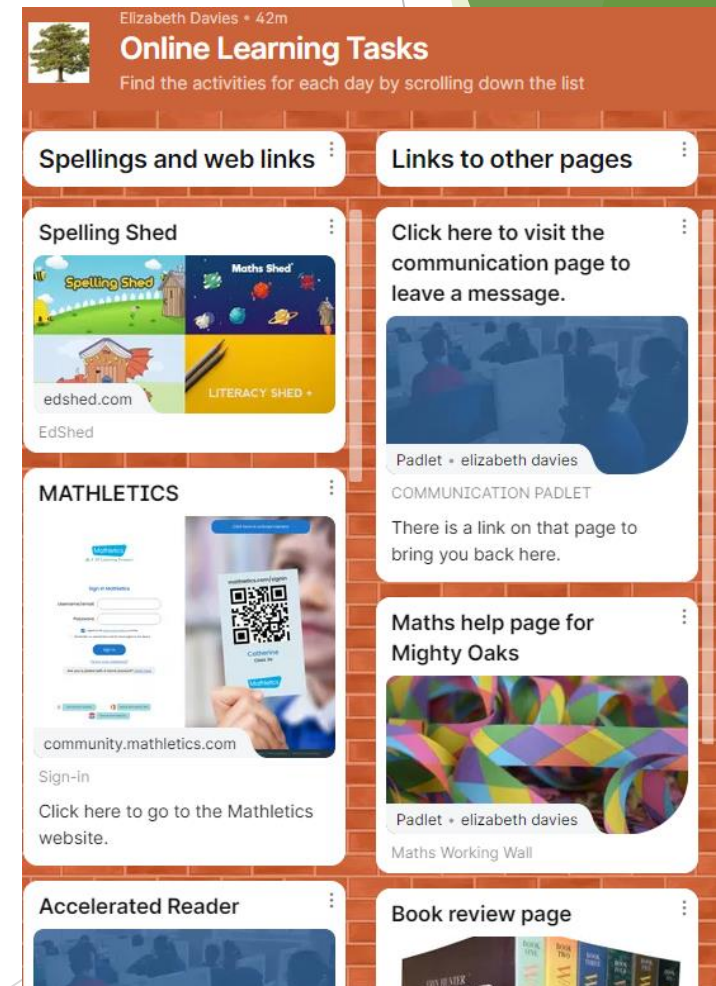
www.padlet.com/edavies12/mightyoaks

Book reviews can be read and posted at

www.padlet.com/edavies12/reviews

Online maths activities can be found at

www.padlet.com/edavies12/mathswall



Merit Tickets



I have reintroduced merit tickets this year, primarily with the aim of ensuring that pupils check their work and correct any errors after it has been marked.

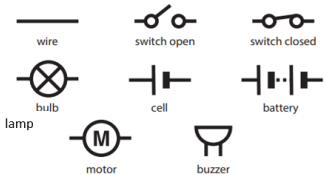
Once the child has responded to marking, they will be given a ticket, the pair of which is posted in the raffle box. Once this is full, one ticket will be drawn and a prize awarded. There will be an opportunity for every child to earn tickets in English and Maths.

Helping your child retain their learning - Knowledge Organisers and KIRFs

You should have received knowledge organisers for key areas of learning, including science and topic.

Each child has a copy of these in their books which will be referred to regularly during the course of lessons, with the intention that children are able to retain and recall all the key information on the knowledge organisers by the end of the term. They may also be set tasks for homework based on this key information.

Electricity Knowledge Organiser Mighty Oaks

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Electrical symbols	
conductor	Some materials let electricity pass through them easily. These materials are known as electrical conductors.		
insulator	Plastic, wood, glass and rubber are good electrical insulators. They do not allow electricity to pass through.		
electrons	Electricity is made up of negatively charged particles called electrons.		
series circuits	A series circuit is one that has more than one resistor, but only one path through which the electricity (electrons) flows.		
cell	A cell is a device that generates electricity, supplying power to a circuit.		
battery	A series of cells joined together		
component	Something that makes up part of an electrical circuit, such as a buzzer or wire.	What you will know / be able to do by the end of the unit	
fuse	A safety device that will melt and make a break in a circuit if there is too much electricity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know that the brightness of a bulb is associated with the voltage.• Compare and give reasons for variations in how components function.• Use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.• Construct simple series circuits.• Be able to answer questions about what happens when they try different components, for example: switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors.	
Thomas Edison	He was an inventor that came up with a way of making the electric light bulb accessible for homes, industry and outside in the streets. He also invented more than 2000 new products, including almost everything needed for us to use electricity in our homes: switches, fuses, sockets and meters.	Sticky knowledge for this unit	
current	Current is the flow of an electric charge. It is an important quantity in electronic circuits. Current flows through a circuit when a voltage is placed across two points of a conductor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A circuit must be complete for electricity to flow around it.• Electricity will not travel from positive to positive or negative to negative.• Electricity travels at the speed of light – more than 300,000 km/second!• Electricity is a type of energy that builds up in one place (static), or flows from one place to another (current electricity).• If more components (e.g. lamps) are added to a circuit, they will have less power (lamps will be less bright. If more cells are added, the power increases).	
generator	A machine that converts energy into electricity.		

Children will also be given some termly mathematical facts to learn – these are the Key Instant Recall Facts or KIRFs. Knowing these instantly will greatly help with processing in mathematics.

Reading

I would love to see all the Mighty Oaks reading for pleasure. This can be fiction or non-fiction. I have a subscription to First News, who produce weekly newspapers for children which will be available in the class. We have a display board in school where children can recommend books to others and they can also post these on our Padlet book review page, which they can access using the QR code.



We have an increasing selection of books in school that have been coded according to the Accelerated Reader System (for those new to this, I have included an introductory slide) and pupils will know, based on a test score, which books they should select from.

All children are expected to read daily at home for at least 15 minutes. Pupils will be set an individual termly reading target on the Accelerated Reader System, which, if they read for the required time, they should meet comfortably. Certificates will be awarded to pupils who reach their target.

Please record all home reading in the reading journals, together with any relevant comments.



Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader is a software application that allows pupils, parents and teachers to keep a track of books that have been read and how well these have been remembered and understood. As a teacher, it allows me to suggest books that will best help pupils to progress as a reader, by selecting texts that are matched to their current ability – neither too challenging not too simple.

When pupils complete a book within the system, they log in to the reading programme and use an easy lookup tool to find the text. They are then able to take a quiz to test their comprehension and the title is added to their virtual bookshelf. By taking quizzes, pupils collect points towards their reading target.

The address for our school portal is:

<https://ukhosted62.renlearn.co.uk/2238872>

All pupils have an individual username and password which will be found in the front of their reading record and homework book.

Please note: Whilst a huge number of books are included within the system, there are inevitably some that are not. Children can, of course, read books that interest them that are not included on the system. Please ensure that, on completion, they write about these books in their homework book so that I can count them towards their reading target.

Year 6 SATs

In May of 2023, all pupils in year 6 will be required to complete the Standard Assessment Tasks (SATs) provided by the government.

Our aim is to prepare the pupils to perform as well as they can for these activities, to ensure that they approach them with confidence, recognising them as an opportunity to show what they know and can do.

We generally begin these preparations gently in term 3 and further details of how you can support your child will be given at this time.

What can you do to help?

- Encourage independence.
- Make sure your child is reading every day and checking the meaning of any new words (or longer phrases) they encounter - either themselves, with you, or by noting in their reading record for discussion with me.
- Help your child to learn, retain and quickly recall their Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs).
- Encourage your child to learn their weekly spellings by looking for patterns, noticing unexpected letters, finding mnemonics and practising using Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check.
- Encourage them to widen their vocabulary and to bring in new words to share with the class.
- Contact the school (or ask your child to talk to me) as soon as possible if anything is worrying them.